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Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R001000030051-2

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

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FROM:

Chiet, Classification Review Division

SUBJECT:

A Suggestion for Handling Certain Manuscripts Written by Current and Former CIA Employees

The statistics over the past several years demonstrate that the number of intelligence-related writings by present and former CIA employees has steadily increased. This constant flow of information has made available to the public PUBLICATIONS demain an increasingly detailed picture of the CIA in spite of the review pro-WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED TO REGULATE THAT FLOW. THERE cedure that procedure has not been (and probably cannot be made) perfect, and in spite of the best intentions by all parties concerned, some significant dis-This has included the names closures of classified information have been made. of CIA personnel, the location or confirmation of the existence of CIA stations and bases abroad, the identification of CIA organizational units at various levels, the covers used (even specific cover slots), operational methods used, internal administrative procedures, foreign liaison relationships, operational targets, the complete story of actual cases, and even the identification of sources. addition, as vague and minor details accumulate, they take on greater meaning, COMES OUT TO the whole can be greater than the sum of all its parts. The harm these revelations are doing to CIA and the overall U. S. intelligence effort is difficult It is certain however, that this threat to our national intelligence effort can only grow more serious under the current situation and that there will be a further development of the perception, already widely held, that Americans cannot keep secrets. Even when published accounts are acknowledged to be nonofficial, repeated confirmation by different authors, each writing on the basis GAINED IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY, INTIMATE, PERSONAL of personal knowledge and experience and making this fact very clear in flyleaf sketches, blurs in the public mind the line between official and non-official disclosure. In the more critical areas which relate directly to an intelligence agency's success, this accumulation of gift information has a chilling effect on

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would-be intelligence sources, offers an unneeded edge to our professional

adversaries, and causes consternation among our official friends which only can lead, in the short run, to increasing difficulties for our intelligence efforts and, over the long run, to a significant and serious impairment of our national security. Pased on the ill-effects from past revelations and the publicly available picture against which new details can be assessed, can we not honestly and reasonably conclude that the release of any additional factual data concerning the CIA will have some degree of harmful effect. If the new revelations do not directly cause harm at least won't they contribute to the harmful perceptions—further chilling the atmosphere in which the CIA must operate.

THERE ARE FEW ASPECTS OF Everything that relates either directly or indirectly to an intelli-WHICH ARE NOT gence service and its activities $\frac{1}{100}$ sensitive to some degree. Supportive of BROAD SWEEP OF THE this fact is the CIA regulation covering access to, and release of, official information. This regulation defines official information as all information, whether classified or unclassified, that is originated, received, or controlled by the Agency in pursuance of law or in connection with the discharge of official IT IS THE OF THIS AGENCY policy that such information is not to be used for personal use or benefit and may not be copied or removed from the files of the Agency for any purpose except in connection with official business. When people join an organization of this nature, they recognize that they are taking a position of trust and confidentiality. This is formally recognized and reinforced by the signing FROM THAT POINT FORWARD THEY ARE ALMOST of a secrecy agreement. Any person who works in any position in an intelligence service is constantly being exposed to sensitive and classified information either by working directly in clandestine activities, by supporting them, or by THE INFORMATION GAINED FROM this constant, personal, and intimate immersion processing the product from them. will so permeate one's experience that it would hardly be possible to write or speak meaningfully about intelligence matters without reference to this knowledge. This association with secrecy becomes a major part of one's experience in the intelligence business and affects us in many ways. To stay in the business one AGENCY'S COVERT ACTIVITIES ANOTHE must learn very quickly how to protect the covert side of one could life and the Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA RDP93B01194R001000030051-2

recognize this need and successfully abide by it is attested to by the small

RECENTLY, HOWEVER, THIS REQUIREMENT

number fired for security indiscretions. Oddly, this needs for secrecy is seems to be

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accepted, while one works for CIA but somehow is considered to lose its validity

AS THOUGH TERMINATION OF ONE'S EMPLOYMENT ALSO TERMINATES

when one leaves the Agency, The often ignored question is whether the information

THE REQUIREMENT TO PROTECT THIS SENSITIVE INFORMATION, OR CAUSES THE INFORMATION

absorbed and retained during CIA employment continues to require protection

TO LOSE ITS SENSITNITY BECAUSE PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT HAS CEASED,

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appropriate to ask-whether the public exposures of CIA involvement in restoring the Shah to the throne in Iran played a role in the takeover 26 years later of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the holding of our hostages.

To prevent the compromise of classified information in the writings of present and former Agency employees, the Agency implemented the publications review procedure. The internal guidelines used in review have been sharply drawn so that they will fall well within legal requirements, and in practice they have been meticulcusly and defensively applied to avoid confrontation and possible legal actions. In the past, some material has been released that we would withhold today under current guidelines, an indication that we have found it necessary to become more restrictive. From those who favor the release of more information we are continually confronted with arguments which are usually reduced to "if you released that I then you should be able to release this now." Once any release AN INCREASINGLY CONCENTRIC AND begins, there is constant pressure to release more in a never-ending cycle. Some ALMOST REFASHIONING authors have reacted maliciously to our deletions by noting them and then rewording STILL WOOLD NOT ESSENTIAWBE INFORMATION them in that tende to compromise but remains outside what is classifiable.

To staumch this flow of sensitive information, it is recommended that CIA adopt a guideline that would withhold in toto all writings by employees and former Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R001000030051-2

employees that are non-fictional accounts of actual situations and activities conducted by or on behalf of the CIA. This would include accounts of all covert operational activities of an FI, CI, and CA nature as well as those administrative, developmental, and support activities related to them. It would include internal administrative, procedural, and operational methods used to process intelligence information and produce a finished intelligence product. Writings concerned solely with finished intelligence or other types of products normally disseminated by CIA, and scholarly writings concerned with the general situation in the intelligence field or in the intelligence community could be published after appropriate review and approval. Roman-a-clef novels with CIA themes would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and purely fictional writings that vary widely from true accounts will be released. It is suggested that this guideline be implemented by issuing the necessary guidelines to reviewers who will withhold entire manuscripts that fall within the above categories. The basis for withholding will normally be to protect intelligence activities, sources, and methods, with finer distinctions possible to protect foreign government information and CIA organizational data.

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5 Aug 1981

Approved For Release 2005/08/24 : CIA-RDP93B01194R001000030051-2

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

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FROM:

Chiet, Classification Review Division

SUBJECT:

A Suggestion for Handling Certain Manuscripts Written by Current and Former CIA Employees

The statistics over the past several years demonstrate that the number of intelligence-related writings by present and former CIA employees has steadily increased. This constant flow of information has made available to the public domain an increasingly detailed picture of the CIA in spite of the review procedure. That procedure has not been (and probably cannot be made) perfect and in spite of the best intentions by all parties concerned some significant disclosures of classified information have been made. This has included the names of CIA personnel, the location or confirmation of the existence of CIA stations and bases abroad, the identification of CIA organizational units at various levels, the covers used (even specific cover slots), operational methods used, internal administrative procedures, foreign liaison relationships, operational targets, the complete story of actual cases, and even the identification of sources. In addition, as vague and minor details accumulate, they take on greater meaning; i.e., the whole can be greater than the sum of all its parts. The harm these revelations are doing to CIA and the overall U.S. intelligence effort is difficult to assess. It is certain however, that this threat to our national intelligence effort can only grow more serious under the current situation and that there will be a further development of the perception, already widely held, that Americans cannot keep secrets. Even when published accounts are acknowledged to be nonofficial, repeated confirmation by different authors, each writing on the basis of personal knowledge and experience and making this fact very clear in flyleaf sketches, blurs in the public mind the line between official and non-official disclosure. In the more critical areas, which relate directly to an intelligence agency's success, this accumulation of gift information has a chilling effect on

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Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R00100030051-2 would be intelligence sources, offers an unneeded edge to our professional adversaries, and causes consternation among our official friends which only can lead, in the short rum, to increasing difficulties for our intelligence efforts and, over the long rum, to a significant and serious impairment of our national security. Based on the ill effects from past revelations and the publicly available picture against which new details can be assessed, can we not honestly and reasonably conclude that the release of any additional factual data concerning the CIA will have some degree of harmful effect. If the new revelations do not directly cause harm at least won't they contribute to the harmful perceptions further chilling the atmosphere in which the CIA must operate.

2. Everything that relates either directly or indirectly to an intelligence service and its activities is sensitive to some degree. Supportive of this fact is the CIA regulation covering access to, and release of, official information. This regulation defines official information as all information, whether classified or unclassified, that is originated, received, or controlled by the Agency in pursuance of law or in connection with the discharge of official duties. CIA policy is that such information is not to be used for personal use or benefit and may not be copied or removed from the files of the Agency for any purpose except in connection with official business. When people join an organization of this nature, they recognize that they are taking a position of trust and confidentiality. This is formally recognized and reinforced by the signing of a secrecy agreement. Any person who works in any position in an intelligence service is constantly being exposed to sensitive and classified information either by working directly in clandestine activities, by supporting them, or by processing the product from them. This constant, personal, and intimate immersion will so permeate one's experience that it would hardly be possible to write or speak meaningfully about intelligence matters without reference to this knowledge. This association with secrecy becomes a major part of one's experience in the intelligence business and affects us in many ways. To stay in the business one must lear Approved tick release 2003/08/24t: cha-RDP93B03ix94R001000030056-2 and the

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Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R00100030051-2 sensitive information with which one comes into contact. That the great majority recognize this need and successfully abide by it is attested to by the small number fired for security indiscretions. Oddly, this need for secrecy is accepted while one works for CIA but somehow is considered to lose its validity when one leaves the Agency. The often ignored question is whether the information absorbed and retained during CIA employment continues to require protection when one leaves. That the sensitivity of intelligence information can last for long periods has been proven by the negative reactions of friendly liaison services to disclosures of joint activities dating even to WW II. Regarding human agents, a consensus of intelligence officers today of the length of time normally required to protect such a source, which would include the immediate family, would probably be about 75 years. And in the field of U.S. foreign relations, would it not be appropriate to ask whether the public exposures of CIA involvement in restoring the Shah to the throne in Iran played a role in the takeover 26 years later of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and the holding of our hostages.

- 3. To prevent the compromise of classified information in the writings of present and former Agency employees, the Agency implemented the publications review procedure. The internal guidelines used in review have been sharply drawn so that they will fall well within legal requirements, and in practice they have been meticulcusly and defensively applied to avoid confrontation and possible legal actions. In the past, some material has been released that we would withhold today under current guidelines, an indication that we have found it necessary to become more restrictive. From those who favor the release of more information we are continually confronted with arguments which are usually reduced to "if you released that, then you should be able to release this now." Once any release begins, there is constant pressure to release more in a never-ending cycle. Some authors have reacted maliciously to our deletions by noting them and then rewording them in a way that tends to compromise but remains outside what is classifiable.

Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R001000030051-2 employees that are non-fictional accounts of actual situations and activities conducted by or on behalf of the CIA. This would include accounts of all covert operational activities of an FI, CI, and CA nature as well as those administrative, developmental, and support activities related to them. It would include internal administrative, procedural, and operational methods used to process intelligence information and produce a finished intelligence product. Writings concerned solely with finished intelligence or other types of products normally disseminated by CIA, and scholarly writings concerned with the general situation in the intelligence field or in the intelligence community could be published after appropriate review and approval. Roman a clef novels with CIA themes would be reviewed on a case by case basis and purely fictional writings that vary widely from true accounts will be It is suggested that this guideline be implemented by issuing the released. necessary guidelines to reviewers who will withhold entire manuscripts that fall within the above categories. The basis for withholding will normally be to protect intelligence activities, sources, and methods, with finer distinctions possible to protect foreign government information and CIA organizational data.

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

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Chiet, Classification Review Division

SUBJECT:

A Suggestion for Handling Certain Manuscripts Written by Current and Former CIA Employees

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among our official friends which ear only lead, in the short run, to increasing difficulties for our intelligence efforts and, over the long run, to the significant and serious impairment of our national security.

2. Everything that relates either directly or indirectly to an intelligence service is sensitive and requires a degree of protection. There is essentially nothing about an intelligence service that totally lacks sensitivity, that does not form part of a thread in a fabric of ever greater consitivity. Supportive of this fact is the CIA regulation covering access to, and release of, official information. This regulation defines official information as all information, whether classified or unclassified, that is originated, received, or controlled by the Agency in pursuance of law or in connection with the discharge of official duties. CIA policy is that such information is not to be used for personal use or benefit and may not be copied or removed from the files of the Agency for any purpose except in connection with official business. When people join an organization of this nature, they recognize that they are taking a position of trust and confidentiality. This is formally recognized and reinforced by the signing of a secrecy agreement. Once inside the organization, each person will be exposed secretary indirectly to classified york.

each person will be exposed directly or indirectly to classified work to attract the weekanism which makes clandestime effor indirectly be associated routinely and continuously with people, activities, and to collect intelligence and countarintelligence information, process to succeed. This association with secrecy that information into finished intelligence, and sometimes takes covert actions becomes a major part of one's experience in the intelligence business, and to stay

in the business one must learn very quickly how to protect sensitive information.

That the great majority succeed in this effort is attested to by the small number fired for security indiscretions. Oddly, this need for secrecy is accepted while one works for CIA but somehow that need is seen as losing its validity when one leaves the Agency. That the sensitivity of such information can last long periods has been proven by the negative reactions of friendly liaison services to disclosures made many years after the fact.

The often Approved For Retease 2005/08/242 CHA-ROPS BO11946090000 5005122 ation absorbed and obtained during CIA employment continues to retain its sensitive

3. To prevent the compromise of classified information in the writings of present and former Agency employees, the Agency implemented the publications used in herecon review procedure. The internal guidelines established to govern these reviews have been sharply drawn so that they will fall well within legal requirements, and in practice they have been meticulously and defensively applied to avoid confrontation and possible legal actions. In the past, some material has been released that we would withhold today under current guidelines, an indication become that we have found it necessary to be more restrictive in what is released. From those who favor the release of more information we are continually confronted with arguments which are usually reduced to "if you released that then, you should be able to release this now." Once any release begins, there is constant pressure to release more in a never-ending cycle. Some authors have reacted maliciously to release more in a never-ending cycle. Some authors have reacted maliciously to the form of them in a way that provides essentially the same meaning provides but remains authors what is classifiable.

4. To staunch this flow of sensitive information, it is recommended that CIA adopt a policy of generally withholding in toto all writings by employees and former employees that are non-fictional accounts of actual situations and activities conducted by or on behalf of the CIA. This would include accounts of all covert operational activities of an FI, CI, and CA nature as well as administrative, developmental, and support activities related to them. It would attended internal administrative, procedurand operational methods used to process intelligence information and produce a finished intelligence product. Writings concerned solely with finished intelligence or other types of products normally disseminated by CIA, and scholarly writings concerned with the general situation in the intelligence field or in the intelligence community may be published after appropriate review Roman a clef novels with CIA themes would be reviewed on a case by case basis and purely fictional accounts that vary widely from true accounts will be released. It is suggested that this policy be implemented by issuing the necessary guidelines to reviewers who will withhold entire manuscripts that contain factual accounts of activities.

fasiapproved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R001000030051-2 The reason for withholding will normally be to protect intelligence activities,
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ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

The statistics over the past several years demonstrate that the number

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Director of Information Services

28 July 1981

STAT

FROM:

Chief, Classification Review Division

SUBJECT:

A Suggester for Handling Manuscripts Written by Current and Former CIA Employees

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ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY Approved For Release 2005/08/24 : CIA-RDP93B0 H94R0000030051-2

friends which can only lead to increasing difficulties for our intelligence efforts and will over the long run, lead eventually to significantly and serious impairing our national security.

2. Everything that relates either directly or indirectly to an intelligence service is sensitive and requires a degree of protection. There is essentially nothing about an intelligence service that totally lacks sensitivity, that does not form part of a thread in a fabric of ever greater sensitivity.

To support this view one need only to look at the CIA regulation covering access to, and release of, official information. This regulation defines official information as all information, whether chassified or unclassified, that is originated, received, or controlled by the Agency in pursuance of law or in The CIA policy is that such connection with the discharge of official duties. Electron experimental connection is knakrikain not be be used for personal use or benefit and may not be copied or removed from the files of the Agency for any purpose except in connection with official business.

When people join an organization of this nature, they recognize that they are taking a position of trust and confidentiality. This is formally recognized and re-inforced by the signing of a secrecy agreement. Once inside the organization, each person will be exposed either directly or indirectly to classified work and will be associated routinely and continuously with people, activities, and facilities that require secrecy to succeed. This association with secrecy becomes a major part of one's experience in the intelligence business, and to stay in the business one must very quickly learn how to protect sensitive information.

That the great majority succeed in this is attested to by the small number fired for security indiscretions. This need for secrecy is accepted while one works for

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SITUATIONS

Approved For Release 2005/08/24: CIA-RDP93B01194R001000030057-2, we have found it recessary to be more restrictive in what is released, that the situation requires some remedy. From those who favor the release of more information we are continually confronted with arguments which are usually reduced to "if you released that you should be able to release this." Once any release begins, there is constant pressure to release more in a never-ending have reacted maliciously Some authors, when asked to delete a portion of their rewording them in a way that provides e ritten that section by explaining that the original material was deleted at he same meaning but just skirts classifi the same meaning but just skirts classifiabile IA's request and then they proceed to rewrite the section in a way that undermines

our efforts to protect classified information. FLOW OF INFORMATION,

To stop this situation, it is recommended that CIA adopt a policy of

generally withholding in toto all writings by employees and former employees that are non-fictional accounts of actual situation and activities conducted by or on behalf of the CIA This would include accounts of all covert operational administrative, activities of an FI, CI, and CA nature as well as developmental, and support activities related to them. It would also include internal administrative and operational methods used to process intelligence information and produce a finished intelligence/product. Writings concerned solely with finished intelligence or other types/of products normally disseminated by CIA, and scholarly writings concerned with the general situation in the intelligence field or in the intelligence community may be published after appropriate review. It is suggested that this policy be implemented by issuing the necessary guidelines to reviewers who will withhold entire manuscripts that meet the above definition: The reason for withholding will normally be to protect intelligence activities, sources, and methods, with finer distinctions possible to protect foreign government information and CIA organizational data.

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